

# Happy Mother's Day

Readers' Personal Thoughts About Their Mothers..... Pages 6, 7 & 8

## LANSGING COMMUNITY NEWS



Serving the Town and Village of Lansing, Cayuga Heights, King Ferry & Genoa

"Not quite paradise, but a nice place to live."

Wednesday, May 7, 1997 ♦♦♦ Vol. II No. 19

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### Town Board Meets Planning Board on Draft Zoning; Decisions Near

**By Matthew Shulman**  
**MONDAY, MAY 5** -- The Lansing Town Council and Lansing Planning Board members had a joint meeting last Tuesday (April 29) to discuss several Council members' concerns about the draft of proposed zoning ordinance amendments submitted by the Planning Board last October.

The joint meeting was called on Friday, April 25 and held in lieu of the Planning Board's Monday (Apr. 28) scheduled meeting date.

"The Town Board is generally supportive of the ordinance, as proposed," said Planning Board Chair Larry Sharpsteen. It's now awaiting the Planning Board's final deliberations, informal general and neighborhood informational meetings and formal public hearing. Based on public feedback throughout this process, the Town Board may be able to make its final decision before the end of July, Sharpsteen explained.

Council members have explained that the delay in formally reviewing the draft ordinance with the Planning Board stemmed from (a) the Council members' desire to individually review the document, (b) several Council members' absences due to illness and out-of-town travel and (c) the difficulty in finding a suitable time for both boards to

get together.

#### Town Council Concerns

Town Council members expressed concerns to the Planning Board about the proposed Site Plan Review requirements for commercial purposes proposed in proximity to residential uses. After discussion, said Sharpsteen, the Council decided to leave this portion of the draft ordinance alone and to get public feedback.

In addition, Council members asked the Planning Board to review the draft zoning map and to consider adding two precinct classifications.

A "lakeshore" precinct might run about 1000 feet wide from Nut Ridge Road at the Cayuga County line south towards Pinney Lane. Another new category, "R-3" would be created from the currently proposed "R-1" low density residential classification to permit the use of state-approved manufactured housing, said Sharpsteen. The boundaries of the "R-3" district had not been defined at the time this article was prepared.

#### The Planning Board Process

The draft ordinance submitted in October represents a culmination of many years' work by the 2010 Committees and the Planning Board to define a Town Comprehensive Plan that sets out Lansing's long-term

development policies and two years of work at the planning Board level to develop a land use zoning ordinance that corresponds to the Comprehensive Plan.

"The (proposed) ordinance is an example of true consensus among seven members who contribute sometimes quite different points of view," said Sharpsteen. "There are portions of the ordinance that some (of the seven) members aren't in complete agreement with, but it seems to meet the entire Planning Board's judgment of what would work best for the town based on information obtained through questionnaires, the Comprehensive Plan committees and citizen input."

If all goes as expected at press time, the Planning Board will have completed its fi-

nal markup of the draft last night (May 6) in preparation for a projected vote at the regularly scheduled May 12 Planning Board meeting.

If passed at this level, a large public informational meeting will likely be set for late May or early June followed by four neighborhood meetings which will focus on the impact of zoning in that part of town. The final step before the Town Council acts on the proposal will be a formal public hearing, probably in July.

"It's not enough to show up at the informational meetings," said Sharpsteen. The Council will listen to what's said at the Public Hearing. "Decisions will be made based on who shows up," he concluded.

### Go-Kart Update

The first mediation session between proponents and opponents of the proposed Go-Kart track slated for completion at the intersection of Buck and Conlon Roads was held last Tuesday (April 29) at the Community Dispute Resolution Center in Ithaca.

Under terms of a mediation process agreement, the participants are refraining from public statements while the mediation negotiations are underway.

### Health Expo Screenings & Demonstrations Draw Thousands

Steadily-moving lines at nearly all 40 exhibition, demonstration and screening booths throughout Pyramid Mall marked the Cayuga Medical Center's **Health Expo '97** last Saturday. The theme of this year's event was "Wellness and Prevention" and ran from 10:00am to 2:30pm at Pyramid Mall as local providers promoted healthy lifestyle behavior and regular health screening practices.

Whatever their stage of life or health needs, area residents could observe and learn about current and future diagnostic and curative technologies with physicians, medical technicians, allied health professionals and nonprofit health-related agencies representing the entire spectrum of medical expertise. In hundreds of private conversations, residents discussed concerns ranging from maternal and prenatal care to holistic services designed to bring comfort and dignity to those nearing the end of their journeys.

Dietary and exercise demonstrations illustrated disease prevention strategies to reduce the risk of cancer, diabetes and cardiovascular illness. Womens' health, poison control, first aid, mental health, pain management, and disease prevention and management exhibits were also on hand.



**INSTANT RESULTS** - Within 30 seconds after having his finger pricked, John Porter got the good news on his blood sugar levels from Ludlowville nurse Donna Santasiero.

Hundreds of residents followed up on the demonstrations and took advantage of many free diagnostic screening services. These included traditional screenings for cataracts and glaucoma, high blood pressure, blood oxygen level testing, oral and colon cancer screening, body fat composition analysis and medication reviews. (Information about free mammograms for women over 40 with no, or limited, insurance coverage is available from the Tompkins County Breast Health Partnership at 274-4500).

#### New Technologies

Visitors also had the chance to observe several new technologies. A relatively new cardiac defibrillator on display at the hospital's emergency room booth featured an external pacemaker that may enable physicians and qualified Paramedics to maintain an effective heart rate.

Free preliminary bone density screenings using a new technology called DEXA Scan were also available. This painless, non-invasive diagnostic tool allows physicians to measure bone mass loss *before* osteoporosis produces irreversibly brittle bones that can easily fracture and threaten elderly adults' independence. Because early detection can

allow physicians to treat and stop the advance of osteoporosis, said Cayuga Medical Center Director of Radiology Anthony De Laurentis, this relatively low cost technology (about \$200) will likely become a common tool in the diagnostic arsenal to protect our growing, aging population.

Finally, folks who stepped up to "test drive" Dr. Philip Lempert's "visual and cognitive function testing device" got a chance to experience America's drivers' license vision exam of the future. Instead of measuring a person's ability to recognize the shape and content of road signs, Lempert's device puts the "driver" in front of a television monitor where he or she is confronted with the moving visual stimulus drivers really experience. Using a joystick, the "driver" indicates the location of randomly appearing symbols as quickly as possible. The speed and accuracy with which the "driver" successfully identifies new objects coming onto the screen is translated as a measure of the ability to react swiftly to the real environment a driver will encounter on the highway.

Stay well and let's take good care of one another.



**TEST DRIVER** - Bill Bachelor, of Dublin Road, tried out a new driver screening technology developed by Lansing ophthalmologist Philip Lempert that tests reaction time to detect and respond to visual stimulus.



**PREVENTIVE CARE** - Jerry Smith Road resident Shirley Inman had some blood drawn for overall cholesterol level screening at **Saturday's Health Expo '97** at Pyramid Mall.

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